

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9 (Previously Presented). A molecule which comprises the antigen-binding portion of an antibody specific for the protein, variant or fragment of claim 13.

10-12 (Cancelled)

13 (Currently Amended). An isolated polypeptide, which comprises:

(a) a protein encoded by a strand of a full length cDNA having the sequence of

(i) a naturally occurring polynucleotide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3,

(ii) a naturally occurring polynucleotide having at least 70% identity with a naturally occurring polynucleotide of (i) and, in naturally occurring neural cells, has its expression modulated when the cells are subjected to neurotoxic stress, wherein the protein encoded by said naturally occurring polynucleotide induces cell apoptosis when overexpressed in human epithelial breast carcinoma MCF-7 cells; or

(iii) a naturally occurring polynucleotide capable of hybridizing under moderately stringent conditions to a naturally-occurring polynucleotide of (i) or (ii) and, in naturally-occurring neural cells, has its expression modulated when the cells are subjected to neurotoxic stress, wherein the protein encoded by said naturally occurring polynucleotide induces cell apoptosis when overexpressed in human epithelial breast carcinoma MCF-7 cells;

(b) a variant of (a) which has an amino acid sequence having at least 70% identity to said protein of (a) and induces cell apoptosis when overexpressed in human epithelial breast carcinoma MCF-7 cells ~~retains the biological activity thereof;~~ or

(c) a functional derivative or salt of (a) or (b);

or

which consists of:

(d) a fragment of (a) or (b) which induces cell apoptosis when overexpressed in human epithelial breast carcinoma MCF-7 cells ~~retains the biological activity thereof;~~

or

(e) a functional derivative or salt of (d).

14 (Previously Presented). An isolated polypeptide in accordance with claim 13, wherein the protein of (a) has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

15 (Currently Amended). An isolated polypeptide in accordance with claim 13, wherein the protein naturally occurring polypeptide of (a) (i) has the sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

16 (Previously Presented). An isolated polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4.

17 (Previously Presented). A molecule which comprises the antigen-binding portion of an antibody specific for the polypeptide of claim 16.